

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Overview

The Ministry is responsible for the formulation of policies and strategies for consumer protection, regular supply of strategic and essential products at affordable prices and fair competition practices.

Key Challenges	Strategies
Unfair trade practices	Strengthen market surveillance through coordinated enforcement operations and increased compliance checks on traders and importers
Rising prices of commodities	Promote healthy competition
	Enhance support to vulnerable and needy households
Ensuring adequate supply of strategic and essential commodities	Extend duration of existing stock through appropriate demand management policies and by improving storage capacities
Regulating e-commerce activities	Develop an appropriate legal framework for e-commerce

Programme Outcomes

Programmes	Outcomes	Indicators	2025/26 Target	2025/26 Provisional	2026/27 Target	2028/29 Target	2029/30 Target
1901: Policy and Strategy for Commerce and Consumer Protection	Conducive commercial environment and effective protection of consumers	Number of policy actions for effective consumer protection	8	20	13	13	13
1902: Consumer Protection and Market Surveillance	Enhanced consumer protection	Number of premises inspected	8,500	7,000	11,000	11,500	12,000
1903: Compliance to Import and Export Obligations	Enhanced efficiency in trade facilitation	Percentage of permits processed within the established timeframe	95%	90%	97%	98%	99%

Financial Resources

Summary by Programmes

Programmes	Rs 000			
	2025/26 Estimates	2026/27 Estimates	2027/28 Planned	2028/29 Planned
1901: Policy and Strategy for Commerce and Consumer Protection	123,000	138,200	143,400	145,700
1902: Consumer Protection and Market Surveillance	103,000	105,000	114,500	99,000
1903: Compliance to Import and Export Obligations	26,000	20,800	22,600	16,800
TOTAL	252,000	264,000	280,500	261,500

Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection - continued

Summary by Economic Categories

Rs 000

Code	Economic Categories	2025/26 Estimates	2026/27 Estimates	2027/28 Planned	2028/29 Planned
Recurrent Expenditure		227,300	249,200	255,000	259,000
20	National Assembly Allowances	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400
21	Compensation of Employees	127,500	142,400	145,800	148,300
22	Goods and Services	43,300	47,100	48,000	48,000
26	Grants	54,000	57,200	58,700	60,200
28	Other Expense	100	100	100	100
Capital Expenditure		24,700	14,800	25,500	2,500
31	Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	24,700	14,800	25,500	2,500
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		252,000	264,000	280,500	261,500

Programme 1901: Policy and Strategy for Commerce and Consumer Protection

Rs 000

Details	2025/26 Estimates	2026/27 Estimates	2027/28 Planned	2028/29 Planned
TOTAL EXPENDITURE [Appropriation]	123,000	138,200	143,400	145,700
Recurrent Expenditure	123,000	138,200	143,400	145,700
Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-

Accounting Officer: Permanent Secretary

Outcome: Conducive commercial environment and effective protection of consumers

Main Service/ Delivery Unit	Key Performance Indicator	2025/26 Target	2025/26 Provisional	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target	2028/29 Target
Develop policies and strategies for commerce and consumer protection <i>Office of the Permanent Secretary</i>	Consumer Protection Bill finalised	-	-	Dec-26		
	E-commerce Regulations finalised	-	-	Dec-26		
Supply of strategic and essential commodities <i>State Trading Corporation</i>	Percentage of reserves of strategic commodities maintained at any point in time	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%

Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection - continued

Main Service/ Delivery Unit	Key Performance Indicator	2025/26 Target	2025/26 Provisional	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target	2028/29 Target
Ensure effective promotion and protection of competition practices <i>Competition Commission</i>	Number of competition cases assessed and completed	60	60	62	65	67

Rs 000

Item No.	Details	2025/26 Estimates	2026/27 Estimates	2027/28 Planned	2028/29 Planned
Recurrent Expenditure		123,000	138,200	143,400	145,700
20	National Assembly Allowances	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400
20100	Annual Allowance				
(i)	Minister	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400
21	Compensation of Employees	44,000	52,800	53,600	54,400
21110	Personal Emoluments	39,910	47,005	47,785	48,570
	<i>of which</i>				
.001	Basic Salary	27,600	35,650	36,350	37,050
.004	Allowances	1,250	2,300	2,300	2,300
.005	Extra Assistance	2,500	4,600	4,600	4,600
.006	Cash in lieu of Leave	1,200	1,200	1,225	1,245
.009	End-of-year Bonus	2,610	3,000	3,055	3,120
21111	Other Staff Costs	3,530	5,030	5,030	5,030
.002	Travelling and Transport	3,000	4,400	4,400	4,400
.100	Overtime	500	600	600	600
.200	Staff Welfare	30	30	30	30
21210	Social Contributions	560	765	785	800
.001	Contribution to the National Savings Fund	560	765	785	800
22	Goods and Services	22,800	26,000	28,900	28,900
22010	Cost of Utilities	990	1,190	1,190	1,190
22020	Fuel and Oil	250	275	275	275
22030	Rent	19,480	20,115	22,915	22,915
22040	Office Equipment and Furniture	80	80	80	80
22050	Office Expenses	150	205	205	205
22060	Maintenance	645	700	700	700
22070	Cleaning Services	115	150	150	150
22090	Security	20	60	60	60
22100	Publications and Stationery	480	590	690	690
22120	Fees	185	195	195	195
22170	Travelling within the Republic	150	150	150	150
22900	Other Goods and Services	255	2,290	2,290	2,290
	<i>of which</i>				
.837	Expenses i.c.w. the National Initiative to Combat Drugs	-	2,000	2,000	2,000
.955	Gender Mainstreaming	200	200	200	200
26	Grants	53,800	57,000	58,500	60,000
26313	Extra-Budgetary Units				
.008	Competition Commission	53,800	57,000	58,500	60,000
TOTAL		123,000	138,200	143,400	145,700

Human Resources

SN	Position Titles	Funded	
		2025/26	2026/27
1	Minister	1	1
2	Permanent Secretary	1	1
3	Deputy Permanent Secretary	2	2
4	Assistant Secretary, <i>formerly Assistant Permanent Secretary</i>	4	4
5	Manager, Financial Operations	1	1
6	Assistant Manager, Financial Operations	1	1
7	Principal Financial Operations Officer	1	1
8	Financial Operations Officer/Senior Financial Operations Officer	1	1
9	Assistant Financial Operations Officer	2	2
10	Assistant Manager, Procurement and Supply	-	1
11	Procurement and Supply Officer/Senior Procurement and Supply Officer	1	1
12	Manager, Human Resources	1	1
13	Senior Human Resource Executive	1	1
14	Human Resource Executive	1	1
15	Office Management Executive	3	3
16	Office Management Assistant	5	5
17	Office Supervisor	1	1
18	Management Support Officer	37	37
19	Confidential Secretary	3	3
20	Word Processing Operator	1	1
21	Receptionist/Telephone Operator	2	2
22	Head Office Auxiliary	1	1
23	Office Auxiliary/Senior Office Auxiliary	6	6
24	Driver	2	2
TOTAL		79	80

Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection - continued

Programme 1902: Consumer Protection and Market Surveillance

Rs 000

Details	2025/26 Estimates	2026/27 Estimates	2027/28 Planned	2028/29 Planned
TOTAL EXPENDITURE [Appropriation]	103,000	105,000	114,500	99,000
Recurrent Expenditure	88,300	94,200	95,000	96,500
Capital Expenditure	14,700	10,800	19,500	2,500
Sub-Programmes:				
190201: Price Control and Fair Commercial Environment	15,500	18,000	32,700	15,900
190202: Legal Metrology Services and Enforcement	46,700	41,700	36,200	36,800
190203: Consumer Protection	40,800	45,300	45,600	46,300
TOTAL	103,000	105,000	114,500	99,000

Sub-Programme 190201: Price Control and Fair Commercial Environment

Accounting Officer: Permanent Secretary						
Outcome: Enhanced consumer protection						
Main Service/ Delivery Unit	Key Performance Indicator	2025/26 Target	2025/26 Provisional	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target	2028/29 Target
Price setting for commodities and market investigation <i>Price Analysis and Monitoring Division</i>	Maximum number of working days for determination of prices of commodities under price control mechanism	3	3	3	2	2

Rs 000

Item No.	Details	2025/26 Estimates	2026/27 Estimates	2027/28 Planned	2028/29 Planned
Recurrent Expenditure		14,100	13,300	13,700	13,900
21	Compensation of Employees	10,800	11,000	11,400	11,600
21110	Personal Emoluments <i>of which</i>	9,425	9,425	9,820	10,015
.001	Basic Salary	6,500	7,900	8,065	8,230
.004	Allowances	500	500	700	700
.006	Cash in lieu of Leave	300	225	235	245
.009	End-of-year Bonus	675	800	820	840
21111	Other Staff Costs	1,205	1,405	1,405	1,405
.002	Travelling and Transport	500	600	600	600
.100	Overtime	700	800	800	800
.200	Staff Welfare	5	5	5	5

Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection - continued

Rs 000

Item No.	Details	2025/26 Estimates	2026/27 Estimates	2027/28 Planned	2028/29 Planned
21210	Social Contributions	170	170	175	180
.001	Contribution to the National Savings Fund	170	170	175	180
22	Goods and Services	3,300	2,300	2,300	2,300
22010	Cost of Utilities	230	255	255	255
22020	Fuel and Oil	125	125	100	100
22040	Office Equipment and Furniture	20	20	20	20
22050	Office Expenses	45	50	50	50
22060	Maintenance	795	795	820	820
22100	Publications and Stationery	285	505	505	505
22120	Fees	1,160	160	160	160
22900	Other Goods and Services	640	390	390	390
Capital Expenditure		1,400	4,700	19,000	2,000
31	Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	1,400	4,700	19,000	2,000
31122	Other Machinery & Equipment				
.802	Acquisition of IT Equipment	200	-	-	-
31132	Intangible Fixed Assets				
.801	Acquisition of Software	1,200	4,700	19,000	2,000
	(a) Subsidised Commodities Management Portal	-	1,700	-	-
	(b) Integrated Price and Market Intelligence System	1,200	3,000	19,000	2,000
TOTAL		15,500	18,000	32,700	15,900

Human Resources

SN	Position Titles	Funded	
		2025/26	2026/27
1	Senior Analyst (Commerce) (New)	-	-
2	Analyst (Commerce) (New)	-	-
3	Analyst/Senior Analyst	2	2
4	Office Management Assistant	2	2
5	Management Support Officer	14	14
6	Office Auxiliary/Senior Office Auxiliary	1	1
7	Driver	1	1
TOTAL		20	20

Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection - continued

Sub-Programme 190202: Legal Metrology Services and Enforcement

Accounting Officer: Permanent Secretary						
Outcome: Enhanced consumer protection						
Main Service/ Delivery Unit	Key Performance Indicator	2025/26 Target	2025/26 Provisional	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target	2028/29 Target
Verification, calibration and inspection of measuring instruments <i>Legal Metrology Services</i>	Number of measuring instruments verified, calibrated and inspected	16,000	16,000	17,000	17,500	17,500

Rs 000

Item No.	Details	2025/26 Estimates	2026/27 Estimates	2027/28 Planned	2028/29 Planned
Recurrent Expenditure		33,400	35,600	35,700	36,300
21	Compensation of Employees	26,700	28,700	29,300	29,900
21110	Personal Emoluments	23,055	24,930	25,530	26,130
	<i>of which</i>				
.001	Basic Salary	17,170	21,750	22,250	22,750
.004	Allowances	700	700	700	700
.006	Cash in lieu of Leave	750	750	800	845
.009	End-of-year Bonus	1,650	1,730	1,780	1,835
21111	Other Staff Costs	3,320	3,370	3,370	3,370
.002	Travelling and Transport	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
.100	Overtime	300	350	350	350
.200	Staff Welfare	20	20	20	20
21210	Social Contributions	325	400	400	400
.001	Contribution to the National Savings Fund	325	400	400	400
22	Goods and Services	6,500	6,700	6,200	6,200
22010	Cost of Utilities	650	605	605	605
22020	Fuel and Oil	570	615	615	615
22030	Rent	50	-	-	-
22040	Office Equipment and Furniture	45	175	75	75
22050	Office Expenses	170	170	170	170
22060	Maintenance	1,980	1,980	1,580	1,580
22070	Cleaning Services	165	175	175	175
22090	Security	420	520	520	520
22100	Publications and Stationery	565	575	575	575
22120	Fees	875	875	875	875
22900	Other Goods and Services	1,010	1,010	1,010	1,010
26	Grants	200	200	200	200
26210	Contribution to International Organisations				
.119	Contribution to Organisation Internationale de Métrologie Légale	200	200	200	200

Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection - continued

Rs 000

Item No.	Details	2025/26 Estimates	2026/27 Estimates	2027/28 Planned	2028/29 Planned
Capital Expenditure		13,300	6,100	500	500
31	Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	13,300	6,100	500	500
31121	Transport and Equipment				
.801	Acquisition of Vehicles	4,500	-	-	-
31122	Other Machinery and Equipment				
.802	Acquisition of IT Equipment	500	1,000	-	-
.804	Acquisition of Laboratory Equipment	5,560	3,205	500	500
31132	Intangible Fixed Assets				
.125	Computerisation of Legal Metrology Services	2,740	1,895	-	-
TOTAL		46,700	41,700	36,200	36,800

Human Resources

SN	Position Titles	Funded	
		2025/26	2026/27
1	Director, Legal Metrology Services	1	1
2	Deputy Director, Legal Metrology Services	1	1
3	Legal Metrologist	3	3
4	Legal Metrology Officer	12	12
5	Senior Technical Officer (Legal Metrology)	1	1
6	Office Management Executive	1	1
7	Management Support Officer	9	9
8	Confidential Secretary	1	1
9	Word Processing Operator	1	1
10	Receptionist/Telephone Operator	1	1
11	Senior Laboratory Auxiliary	1	1
12	Laboratory Auxiliary	5	5
13	Driver (Mechanical Unit)	2	3
14	Driver	3	3
15	Office Auxiliary/Senior Office Auxiliary	2	2
16	Helper	2	2
17	General Worker	2	2
TOTAL		48	49

Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection - continued

Sub-Programme 190203: Consumer Protection

Accounting Officer: Permanent Secretary						
Outcome: Enhanced consumer protection						
Main Service/ Delivery Unit	Key Performance Indicator	2025/26 Target	2025/26 Provisional	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target	2028/29 Target
Ensure effective consumer protection <i>Consumer Affairs Unit</i>	Percentage of investigations completed within a fortnight	85%	85%	87%	90%	92%

Rs 000

Item No.	Details	2025/26 Estimates	2026/27 Estimates	2027/28 Planned	2028/29 Planned
Recurrent Expenditure		40,800	45,300	45,600	46,300
21	Compensation of Employees	33,200	35,900	37,200	37,900
21110	Personal Emoluments	27,630	30,080	31,370	32,060
	<i>of which</i>				
.001	Basic Salary	20,600	25,500	26,720	27,350
.004	Allowances	1,300	1,400	1,400	1,400
.006	Cash in lieu of Leave	900	980	1,000	1,015
.009	End-of-year Bonus	2,000	2,200	2,250	2,295
21111	Other Staff Costs	5,220	5,420	5,420	5,420
.002	Travelling and Transport	5,200	5,400	5,400	5,400
.200	Staff Welfare	20	20	20	20
21210	Social Contributions	350	400	410	420
.001	Contribution to the National Savings Fund	350	400	410	420
22	Goods and Services	7,600	9,400	8,400	8,400
22010	Cost of Utilities	1,770	1,825	1,825	1,825
22020	Fuel and Oil	25	25	25	25
22030	Rent	480	480	480	480
22040	Office Equipment and Furniture	255	20	20	20
22050	Office Expenses	60	60	60	60
22060	Maintenance	250	225	225	225
22100	Publications and Stationery	275	680	680	680
22120	Fees	1,575	3,175	2,175	2,175
	<i>of which</i>				
.008	Fees for Consultants	-	1,600	600	600
.028	Fees for Laboratory Tests	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
22900	Other Goods and Services	2,910	2,910	2,910	2,910
	<i>of which</i>				
.903	Awareness Campaigns	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
TOTAL		40,800	45,300	45,600	46,300

Human Resources

SN	Position Titles	Funded	
		2025/26	2026/27
1	Head, Consumer Affairs Unit	1	1
2	Principal Consumer Affairs Officer	3	3
3	Senior Consumer Affairs Officer	5	5
4	Consumer Affairs Officer	32	32
5	Management Support Officer	5	5
6	Word Processing Operator	1	1
7	Office Auxiliary/Senior Office Auxiliary	1	1
8	Driver	1	1
TOTAL		49	49

Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection - continued

Programme 1903: Compliance to Import and Export Obligations

Rs 000

Details	2025/26 Estimates	2026/27 Estimates	2027/28 Planned	2028/29 Planned
TOTAL EXPENDITURE [Appropriation]	26,000	20,800	22,600	16,800
Recurrent Expenditure	16,000	16,800	16,600	16,800
Capital Expenditure	10,000	4,000	6,000	-

Accounting Officer: Permanent Secretary

Outcome: Enhanced efficiency in trade facilitation

Main Service/ Delivery Unit	Key Performance Indicator	2025/26 Target	2025/26 Provisional	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target	2028/29 Target
Delivery of permits for imports and exports of goods <i>Trade Division</i>	Maximum number of working days to issue import permits	< 3	< 3	< 2	< 2	1

Rs 000

Item No.	Details	2025/26 Estimates	2026/27 Estimates	2027/28 Planned	2028/29 Planned
Recurrent Expenditure		16,000	16,800	16,600	16,800
21	Compensation of Employees	12,800	14,000	14,300	14,500
21110	Personal Emoluments	11,585	12,785	13,080	13,275
	<i>of which</i>				
.001	Basic Salary	8,745	11,300	11,560	11,725
.004	Allowances	150	200	200	200
.006	Cash in lieu of Leave	350	350	360	370
.009	End-of-year Bonus	840	935	960	980
21111	Other Staff Costs	990	990	990	990
.002	Travelling and Transport	900	900	900	900
.100	Overtime	85	85	85	85
.200	Staff Welfare	5	5	5	5
21210	Social Contributions	225	225	230	235
.001	Contribution to National Savings Fund	225	225	230	235
22	Goods and Services	3,100	2,700	2,200	2,200
22010	Cost of Utilities	405	455	455	455
22020	Fuel and Oil	25	25	25	25
22040	Office Equipment and Furniture	310	45	45	45
22050	Office Expenses	75	75	75	75
22060	Maintenance	375	375	375	375
22100	Publications and Stationery	370	400	400	400
22120	Fees	875	650	150	150
	<i>of which</i>				
.008	Fees to Consultants	500	500	-	-

Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection - *continued*

Rs 000

Item No.	Details	2025/26 Estimates	2026/27 Estimates	2027/28 Planned	2028/29 Planned
22900	Other Goods and Services	665	675	675	675
28	Other Expense	100	100	100	100
28216	Transfers to Regional/International Organisation				
.020	Kimberley Process Permanent Secretariat	100	100	100	100
Capital Expenditure		10,000	4,000	6,000	-
31	Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	10,000	4,000	6,000	-
31132	Intangible Fixed Assets				
.801	Acquisition of Software - <i>Trade Management Information System</i>	10,000	4,000	6,000	-
TOTAL		26,000	20,800	22,600	16,800

Human Resources

SN	Position Titles	Funded	
		2025/26	2026/27
1	Director of Trade	-	-
2	Principal Trade Analyst, <i>formerly Principal Analyst (Trade)</i>	2	3
3	Senior Trade Analyst, <i>formerly Senior Analyst (Trade)</i>	2	2
4	Trade Analyst, <i>formerly Analyst (Trade)</i>	5	5
5	Senior Commercial Officer	-	1
6	Commercial Officer	1	1
7	Assistant Commercial Officer	1	1
8	Office Management Assistant	2	2
9	Management Support Officer	10	10
10	Office Auxiliary/Senior Office Auxiliary	1	1
TOTAL		24	26